



# House Select Committee on Homeland Security Democrats

**JIM TURNER, Ranking Member**

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## DEMOCRATS CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION OF SOUTHERN BORDER

Congressman Jim Turner, Ranking Member of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, Congressman Silvestre Reyes, a former Border Patrol Chief, and other Democrats, introduced the **Secure Borders Act** to enhance security and promote economic prosperity on the Southern Border.

The **Secure Borders Act** will:

- Create a \$1 billion infrastructure investment fund;
- Double the numbers of law enforcement at and between the ports of entry;
- Deploy technology to monitor the entire border 24/7;
- Screen all cargo trucks crossing the Southern Border for WMD;
- Expand Detention and Removal Operations; and
- Require Spanish and other specialized training for inspectors.

**“The country is fighting a war against terror, but nowhere is the gap between rhetoric and reality greater than on our Southern Border,”** said Turner. **“Nothing short of this across-the-board transformation will meet the security and economic demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”**

**“As a former Border Patrol chief, I know the challenges of securing our 2,000 mile southern border; however, we need a secure border to ensure a secure nation,”** said Reyes. **“Through the bold actions we propose in this bill, we can achieve the delicate balance between national security and economic prosperity necessary for our nation to thrive.”**

The **Secure Borders Act** implements the findings of a 6-month investigation conducted by Homeland Security Democrats, detailed in *Transforming the Southern Border: Providing Security and Prosperity in the Post-9/11 World*. The report demonstrates that even three years after the 9/11 attacks, the Southern Border is still porous and ripe for exploitation by terrorists.

The report is available on the committee website at [www.house.gov/hsc/democrats](http://www.house.gov/hsc/democrats).

**“The time for action is now,”** said Turner. **“The linkage between our border communities and national security has never been greater than since the 9/11 attacks. Only true transformation will provide the real security and promote the economic development that America needs.”**

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